

**EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
8TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19TH– 6:30 P.M.**

Members	Attendance	April 2015- APRIL 2016	
		Present	Absent
Edna Elijah, Chair	P	4	0
Austin Scott, Vice, Chair	A	3	1
Gregory T. Boardman	P	3	1
Towana Bonaparte	P	4	0
Dr. Ciara L. Bostick	P	3	1
Maureen S. Dinnen	A	1	3
W. Jason Dunne	A	0	4
Jennifer Gordon	P	2	0
Rochelle Horowitz	P	2	2
Deniece Jones	P	3	1
Jennifer L. Kimmey	P	3	1
Sam L. Mitchell	P	2	1
Dr. Maureen Persi	A	2	2
Jonathan Schwartz	P	2	1
Betty Shelley	P	2	0
M. Elaine Wilson	P	2	2

**Appointed Members to the Board: 16
Needed to constitute a quorum: 9**

Staff

Junia Robinson, staff liaison
Charles Webster, BCPS liaison
Betty Shelley, Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association

- I. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance – Chair, Edna Elijah**
- II. Attendance by Roll Call – Chair, Edna Elijah**

Determination of quorum

As of this date, November 19th, 2015 there are 16 appointed members to the board, which means 9 would constitute a quorum. At this time, there is a quorum.

- III. Approve minutes (August 20th and September 17th, 2015)**

Mr. Schwartz noted a grammatical correction in the August 20th meeting. He said “at the bottom of the 3rd page the word event should say even”. Chair Elijah said “I will note that for Junia”. Chair Elijah also noted another correction made by the board in the September 17th minutes. On the 3rd page, it was noted that the name John Wright was spelled incorrectly.

Motion by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Ms. Bonaparte, that the August 20th and September 17th, 2015 minutes be approved. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Guest Introductions: Christy L. Bradford, Curriculum Supervisor,
Broward County Public Schools (BCPS)
Career, Technical, Adult and Community Education
(CTACE)**

Ms. Bradford introduced herself to the board as the curriculum supervisor for Career, Technical, Adult and Community Education (CTACE). She explained that her department oversee adult education and she wrote a grant with Career Service Broward formerly “workforce one”. Ms. Bradford shared that BCPS received \$500,000 to service out of school youth. The workforce opportunity act (WIOA) is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services. Ms. Bradford explained that her office is recruiting high school “drop outs” between the ages of 16-24 for this program. Some of the benefits of participating in this program include: paid internship, pay for GED, computer, bus allowance, tutor expense and other rewards.

**Dr. John Wright, Holy Cross Hospital, Child Protective
Team (CPT)**

Dr. Wright introduced himself by saying “I’m a private practice Pediatrician; that’s what I do at Holy Cross and I am also part of the medical team of the child protective team of Broward County”. Dr. Wright shared that he will talk about child abuse and “what we do”. He explained that CPT is part of the Department of Health’s medical services “and so every part of the State of Florida has a child protective team. He said that the contract in Broward is held by the county and is located in the Nancy Cotterman center. Dr. Wright stated that the way the system works is whenever someone suspects a child is being abused they call the hotline. He said if the alleged abuse meets the “criteria” a report is sent to the county for investigation. Dr. Wright shared that the investigation here in Broward County is handled by the Broward County Sheriff’s Office (BSO) child protective team. He says BSO consults the medical team on certain cases that meet the mandatory criteria that are more severe. This includes sexual abuse, deaths, and various types of other allegations of abuse.

V. Current business

A. BCPS updates- Charles Webster

Mr. Webster began his updates by announcing that Dr. Osgood is the Chair this year for the School board and Mrs. Freedman is the Vice Chair. As it relates to the capitol dollars and SMART project, Mr. Webster explained that the Superintendent said that BCPS is three months behind from “where they are supposed to be”. He shared there were something’s that delayed the process. At the last school board meeting, Mr. Webster said they approved contracts for Ely, Northeast and Stranahan High school.

Mr. Webster announced in “new news” the “no child left behind” is being discussed in the House and Senate to actually go ahead and finally “redo” the bill. He announced the Superintendent’s conversation with the district began at Fort Lauderdale High on October 21st. Mr. Webster shared the next conversation with the district meeting will be held on January 21st at Deerfield beach high school and Hallandale high school on January 28th, 2016.

B. Board discussions/member updates

Mr. Boardman shared that he attended the Stranahan meeting held on October 15th. He said the meeting was a bit “contentious because the public really wants to see the cafeteria at Stranahan be replaced”. Mr. Boardman said that was the focus. He said BCPS has hired a program management firm to manage the program at 15 million dollars at Stranahan. He said the program was presented at the meeting by a program manager for the company and he was “grilled on the spot” regarding “timeline, scope of work etc....

Mr. Boardman said the latest update is “the firm completed the design project and they put the project out for bid”. He said at yesterday’s “pre-bid” BCPS conference over 50 companies showed up for the bid.

Dr. Bostick announced that she recently had the opportunity to judge the Business Professionals of America (BPA) for the region. She said “all the middle and high school students who participated were automatically moved up to the next level”. Dr.Bostick said she had the opportunity to judge the Human Resource management/persuasive speech that was held at Pompano Beach High school. She explained that the students who participated had to dress professional and when they arrived they get there topic and had 10 minutes to prepare for a persuasive speech. Dr. Bostick said for the Human Resource (HR) management portion they were given an HR problem and how would they fix it. She said the kids were “nervous but awesome”

Mr. Schwartz shared that over the past couple of weeks, he has had conversations with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance as well as the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce “one of the common themes you hear from

both of these organizations is that they go to speak to employers who are looking at relocating into the City/our community and the employers are coming from the Northeast U.S or Chicago or other places and they say there concern with coming here is finding talents in their companies and it's directed towards what they perceive as the lack of quality of our education system". He continued by saying "when you speak to the Alliance and the Chamber, they will show you data that shows that a lot of that is old reputation that we have long since moved passed and that are statistics are actually good".

Mr. Schwartz says the companies would then say "great, then show us". He says the problem they are having is that the information is coming "directly from ourselves, from our own academic institutions".

He said a comment was made to him by a few business executives saying "why don't the school board hire an independent auditor that would come in and evaluate our school system that could be done at a county or city level".

Junia reminded the board that this has been a conversation for quite some time. She explained that the City's neighbor survey which has been conducted over the past few years in the city has addressed that question. Junia said it would be a great opportunity for the board to get involved in addressing the perception of schools in the City.

C. City Staff update – Junia Robinson

Junia Robinson, staff liaison reminded the board to discuss new topics for discussion under "new business".

D. Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association – Ms. Betty Shelley

Ms. Betty shared that she represents the Council of Civic Association which is a combination of all the civic associations in the City. She says there are 42 associations citywide. She said the Superintendent attended the recent Civic Association meeting to provide an update on the SMART projects in the City.

Next Meeting and Closing

The next meeting is scheduled for, Thursday, December 17th, 2015

City hall, 8th floor conference room